



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

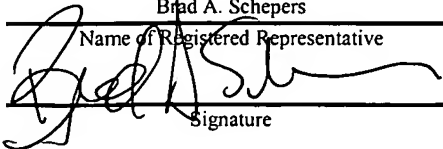
In re patent application of:	)	Before the Examiner:
Charles L. Branch et al.	)	Pedro Philogene
	)	
Application of Serial No. 10/698,702	)	Group Art Unit 3733
	)	
Filed October 31, 2003	)	Ref. No. MSDI-186/
	)	PC365.07
INTERBODY FUSION GRAFTS	)	
AND INSTRUMENTATION	)	December 18, 2008

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated December 15, 2008, please consider the following amendments and remarks. Additionally, please charge any additional fees which may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:	
December 18, 2008	_____
Date of Deposit	_____
Brad A. Schepers	_____
Name of Registered Representative	_____
	_____
Signature	_____
December 18, 2008	_____
Date of Signature	_____

### **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Claims 217-276 were pending in the subject application for the final Office Action dated December 15, 2008. Each of the pending claims currently stands rejected. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are hereby requested.